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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
Human Resources Committee

Office of the Chairman

HRC-C-78-002
6 January 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Members, Human Resources Committee

SUBJECT: Possible Establishment of an Overt
Collection Committee

1. This memorandum is a follow-up to the 15 December meeting of the HRC during which [] outlined his tentative thoughts concerning creation of a Committee for Overt Collection (OVCOL). You will recall that he invited the HRC to deliberate the pros and cons of having an Overt Collection Committee, and to come back to him with individual views or a consensus HRC opinion.

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2. The intent in creating such a committee would be to bridge the intelligence and non-intelligence sectors of the foreign affairs community for mutual information benefit, and to promote systematic planning for collection by open acquisition and by sensitive overt means. To those ends two options suggest themselves:

a. Add a new committee - OVCOL - to implement NPHR Action Program A and further develop the potential of overt collection as a program planning choice. For discussion purposes, a strawman OVCOL is attached hereto.

b. Expand the HRC to include a new OVCOL working group.

3. In Option a, above, the HRC would continue its basic mission of planning, coordination, guidance and review of human resource collection/reporting, including ongoing activities in the areas of training, R&D, the FOCUS program and the development of a Community-wide guidance and requirements mechanism for human resources. I recommend that when we meet on this subject we concentrate on the pros and cons of each of the two options, leaving until a later date the matter of possible changes in HRC membership and substructure in the event of Option b, and/or after the changes in the Intelligence Community Staff structure have been completed.

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4. I suggest that the Committee meet at 1015 on 18 January 1978 to discuss the above possibilities, plus others that any member may wish to introduce. If a consensus opinion emerges from this next HRC meeting we will draft an HRC recommendation to [] on this subject and coordinate that with you by telephone before forwarding it to []

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Attachment
As stated

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Overt Collection Committee (OVCOL)

- I. PURPOSE - The Overt Collection Committee would bridge the intelligence and non-intelligence sectors of the foreign affairs community* so that non-intelligence entities could contribute as appropriate to the Intelligence Community's information needs, and in return benefit fully from the latter's intelligence products. Within the Intelligence Community, the Overt Collection Committee would promote systematic planning for, and coordination of, collection by open acquisition and, possibly, by sensitive overt means. In addition, the Overt Collection Committee would assist NFIP program review and resource planning, as appropriate.
- II. PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES - The Overt Collection Committee would sponsor, conduct resource planning for, promote, review and evaluate the following inter-agency activities, most of which exist separately already:
 - A. Monitoring, translating, researching and interpreting of foreign media products as a service of common concern.
 - B. Procurement of foreign maps and publications as a service of common concern.
 - C. Undertaking to resolve collection issues or difficulties involving open-acquisition or overt sensitive collection means. (Example - problems in S&T collection)
 - D. Implementing of Action Program A of the National Foreign Intelligence Plan for Human Resources (NPHR)

*FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMUNITY - Those departments, U.S. Government agencies, and other organizations which are represented in U.S. diplomatic missions abroad; and Executive Branch entities which may not be represented abroad but are significantly involved in international activities with the governments of other nations.

- III. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP - Comments are welcome. Possibilities range from an "exhaustive" listing to include all agencies which carry out activities of overt collection to a modest membership list to include only those agencies whose participation could be expected to result in significant improvement in collection from overt sources within a relatively brief period of time (e.g., one to two years).

THE NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE PLAN
FOR HUMAN RESOURCES
(NPHR)

Action Program A: Make optimum use for national intelligence purposes of information originating with the foreign affairs community. The Overt Collection Committee will:

1. Determine the extent to which non-intelligence elements of the foreign affairs community can contribute to national intelligence needs.
2. Insure that managers of non-intelligence programs and activities, which produce foreign information of potential intelligence value, are informed about national intelligence needs and priorities.
3. Bring the foreign information yield from non-intelligence elements of the foreign affairs community to bear on national intelligence needs; assist timely flow of such information into intelligence reporting and distribution channels.
4. Develop procedures to insure that foreign information obtained by non-intelligence elements of the foreign affairs community is considered in deliberations leading to the tasking or guidance of intelligence resources.